

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

**FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE  
1st meeting  
held on  
Wednesday, 22 September 1993  
at 10 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 1st MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS: MEMORANDUM BY THE SECRETARY-  
GENERAL

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.1  
4 October 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS: MEMORANDUM BY THE SECRETARY-  
GENERAL (A/BUR/48/1 and Add.1; A/48/416)

Section I. Introduction

1. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions reproduced in annexes V, VI, VII and VIII of its rules of procedure. It also took note of paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, and of the letter from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences contained in document A/48/416.

Section II. Organization of the session

Paragraph 6 (General Committee)

2. The Committee took note of paragraph 6 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraphs 7 to 10 (Rationalization of work)

3. The Committee took note of paragraphs 7, 8 and 10, and decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 9 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraph 11 (Closing date of the session)

4. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the Assembly should recess no later than 21 December 1993 and close on 19 September 1994, and also that all the Main Committees should start their work as soon as possible and make every effort to complete their work by 3 December 1993.

Paragraphs 12 to 14 (Schedule of meetings)

5. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that morning meetings should start at 10 a.m. for all plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees. The Committee also decided to draw the Assembly's attention to the fact that services would not be available beyond 6 p.m. for weekday meetings of the Assembly (plenary meetings and Main Committees) as well as for meetings on weekends. The Committee also decided to recommend that, in order to avoid the late start of meetings, the General Assembly should waive the quorum requirements for plenary meetings and meetings of the Main Committees.

6. The CHAIRMAN strongly endorsed the suggestion that each delegation should designate someone to be present at the scheduled meeting time.

7. The Committee further decided to recommend that delegations should be reminded of the utmost importance of punctuality in the interest of ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations.

Paragraphs 15 to 17 (General debate)

8. The Committee endorsed the suggestions contained in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

9. The CHAIRMAN urged representatives, in view of the large number of delegations already inscribed on the list of speakers for the general debate in the General Assembly, to speak in the order in which they were listed. Those unable to speak at the scheduled time would be put at the end of the list for the same day.

10. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to decisions taken by the Assembly at previous sessions, prohibiting the practice of expressing of congratulations inside the Assembly Hall itself. In that connection, the Committee also decided to recommend to the Assembly that speakers in the general debate should be asked to exit the Assembly Hall through room GA-200, located behind the podium, before returning to their seats.

Paragraphs 18 to 20 (Explanations of vote, right of reply, points of order and length of statements)

11. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraphs 6, 7 and 8 of its decision 34/401 and to rules 72 and 114 of the rules of procedure and paragraph 22 of annex VI thereto, for appropriate action to be taken by the Assembly in plenary meeting and by the Main Committees. It further decided to recommend to the Assembly that points of order should be limited to five minutes.

Paragraphs 21 and 22 (Records of meetings)

12. The Committee decided to take note of paragraph 21 of the Secretary-General's memorandum and, in connection with paragraph 22, decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the practice of not reproducing in extenso statements made in a Main Committee should be maintained for the forty-eighth session.

Paragraph 24 (Concluding statements)

13. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the need for full implementation of paragraph 17 of General Assembly decision 34/401.

Paragraphs 25 to 28 (Resolutions)

14. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 32 of its decision 34/401, to recommendation 3 (f) of the Group of High-level Intergovernmental Experts, and to paragraphs 1 and 10 of the annex to its resolution 45/45. The Committee further decided to recommend to the Assembly that it should exercise maximum restraint in making requests or proposals that might incur additional expenditure for the Organization.

Paragraphs 29 to 31 (Documentation)

15. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 28 of its decision 34/401. The Committee also decided to take note of the recommendations contained in paragraphs 30 and 31 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

16. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America), supported by Mr. MERIMEE (France), Mr. GOZELIK (Russian Federation), Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) and Mr. NYAKYI (United Republic of Tanzania), said that his delegation did not necessarily agree with the contents of paragraph 31 of the Secretary-General's memorandum. He drew attention to the conclusions contained in the letter dated 20 September 1993 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences (A/48/416), in which that Committee "considered the limitation of distribution to missions of only two copies of official documents per mission too restrictive". The restrictions contained in paragraph 31 came perilously close to impairing the ability of delegations to conduct the vital work of the General Assembly.

17. Mrs. FLORES (Uruguay) and Mr. MARTINI HERRERA (Guatemala) supported the statements made by previous speakers and expressed concern at the decision to modify the practice of simultaneous distribution of documents, which would hamper the work of a large number of Spanish-speaking delegations.

18. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Colombia had asked to participate in the discussion of paragraph 31 of the Secretary-General's memorandum. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to the request.

19. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Jaramillo (Colombia) took a place at the Committee table.

20. Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia) said that he strongly agreed with the two previous speakers.

21. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) said that his delegation could not accept the discriminatory treatment proposed in paragraph 31 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

22. Mr. HADID (Algeria) and Mr. MONGBE (Benin) supported the statements made by previous speakers and also expressed concern at the restrictions placed on meetings of regional groups in paragraph 9 of the Secretary-General's memorandum. It was difficult to imagine how the General Assembly would be able to function if regional groups, which often did much to facilitate the Assembly's work, were not permitted to meet.

23. The CHAIRMAN said that, in the light of the widespread concern that had been expressed with regard to paragraphs 9 and 31 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, he would consult with the Secretary-General and the Secretariat in order to find a solution to the problem.

24. Mr. Jaramillo (Colombia) withdrew.

Paragraphs 32 to 35 (Questions related to the programme budget)

25. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the provisions reproduced in paragraphs 32 and 33 and the observations contained in paragraphs 34 and 35 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraphs 36 and 37 (Observances and commemorative meetings)

26. Mr. MARTINI HERRERA (Guatemala) said that the recommendation contained in paragraph 36 of the Secretary-General's memorandum would limit the ability of many delegations to participate in the work of the General Assembly and should therefore be implemented on a case-by-case basis.

27. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that paragraph 36 allowed for the necessary flexibility in the implementation of the recommendation.

28. The Committee endorsed the suggestions contained in paragraphs 36 and 37 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraphs 38 and 39 (Special conferences)

29. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to the recommendations referred to in paragraphs 38 and 39 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Paragraph 39 (a) (Meetings of subsidiary organs) (A/BUR/48/1/Add.1)

30. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to a letter dated 20 September 1993 from the Chairman of the Committee on Conferences to the President of the General Assembly (A/48/417) informing him that the Committee had recommended, on the strict understanding that meetings would have to be accommodated within available facilities and services, that a number of subsidiary organs should be authorized to meet during the forty-eighth session.

31. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should authorize the subsidiary organs of the Assembly referred to in document A/BUR/48/1/Add.1 to meet during the forty-eighth session.

Section III. Observations and proposals on the organization of future sessions of the General Assembly

Paragraphs 40 to 42

32. The Committee took note of paragraphs 40 and 41 and endorsed the suggestion contained in paragraph 42.

Section IV. Adoption of the agenda

33. The CHAIRMAN said that, in accordance with rule 40 of the rules of procedure, the Committee would not consider the substance of any item except in so far as it bore on the question of whether or not to recommend the inclusion of that item in the agenda.

34. He also drew the Committee's attention to the suggestions in paragraph 44 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, and in particular the suggestion that the agenda of the General Assembly should be simplified by grouping or merging, to the extent possible, related items, and, where it was appropriate for the discussion of a particular item, by setting an interval of more than a year between discussions of it.

35. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should direct its Main Committees to review their agenda with a view to streamlining their programme of work as suggested in paragraph 44 of the Secretary-General's memorandum.

Inclusion of items

Items 1 to 6

36. The CHAIRMAN said that items 1 to 6 had already been dealt with; he would therefore take it that there were no comments on their inclusion in the agenda.

Items 7 to 24

37. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 7 to 24 in the agenda.

Item 25

38. Mr. MERIMEE (France) expressed regret that the General Committee must once again consider the inclusion of the agenda item relating to Mayotte. The question of Mayotte was an internal one and was regularly reviewed by the French and Comorian authorities; any discussion thereof by the General Assembly would constitute a violation of Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations.

39. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 25 in the agenda.

Items 26 to 37

40. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 26 to 37 in the agenda.

Item 38

41. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to a letter from the Chairman of the Special Committee against Apartheid dated 21 September 1993 (A/48/419) informing him of the Special Committee's request that the wording of item 38 of the provisional agenda be changed to "Elimination of apartheid and establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa".

42. The Committee decided to recommend that the wording of item 38 should be changed to "Elimination of apartheid and establishment of a united, democratic and non-racial South Africa" and that the item should be included in the agenda.

Items 39 and 40

43. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 39 and 40 in the agenda.

Item 41

44. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Afghanistan had asked to participate in the discussion of item 41. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to the request.

45. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan) took a place at the Committee table.

46. Mr. GHAFORZAI (Afghanistan) said that the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan had addressed a letter to the Secretary-General requesting that the title of agenda item 41 should be amended to read "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan". The Minister for Foreign Affairs had also requested that, given the political aspects of the close link between economic reconstruction in Afghanistan and peace and security in that country, the item should be allocated to the plenary Assembly.

47. The CHAIRMAN said that the Committee would consider the allocation of items at a later stage.

48. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 41 in the agenda.

49. Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan) withdrew.

Items 42 to 51

50. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 42 to 51 in the agenda.

Item 52

51. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Afghanistan had asked to participate in the discussion of the item. Rule 43 of the rules of procedure did not apply. He took it that the Committee wished to accede to the request.

52. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan) took a place at the Committee table.

53. Mr. GHAFORZAI (Afghanistan) said that the Government of Afghanistan had requested the Secretary-General to retain item 52 on the agenda of the forty-eighth session without any discussion of the subject.

54. The CHAIRMAN recalled that at the last meeting of the forty-seventh session, held on 20 September 1993, the General Assembly had decided to include the item in the draft agenda of the forty-eighth session.

55. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 52 in the agenda.

56. Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan) withdrew.

Items 53 to 88

57. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 53 to 88 in the agenda.

Item 89

58. Mr. OUEDRAOGO (Burkina Faso), supported by Mr. von WAGNER (Germany), said that, after consultation with the representatives of France and Madagascar, his delegation wished to recommend that consideration of item 89, the question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India, should be deferred until the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly, without prejudice to any arrangements the two countries might arrive at in that regard.

59. The Committee decided to recommend that consideration of the item should be deferred to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly and included in the provisional agenda of that session.

Items 90 to 120

60. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 90 to 120 in the agenda.

Item 121

61. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) drew attention to the Secretary-General's progress report on the question of East Timor (A/48/418), in which he expressed the view that the talks between the Governments of Portugal and Indonesia were contributing to greater understanding and to the adoption of confidence-building measures which gave hope of substantial progress towards a solution to that question.

62. In view of the fact that a new round of talks was scheduled to begin in May 1994 in Geneva, his delegation proposed that the General Committee should recommend to the General Assembly a deferment of item 121 until its forty-ninth session.

63. Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom), supporting the proposal of the delegation of Egypt, said that the current negotiations being held under the auspices of the Secretary-General gave hope that an internationally acceptable solution to the problem would be found through dialogue.

64. The Committee decided to recommend that consideration of item 121 should be deferred to the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly and included in the provisional agenda of that session.

Items 122 to 151

65. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 122 to 151 in the agenda.

Item 152

66. Mr. MARKER (Pakistan) said that item 152 concerning observer status for the Economic Cooperation Organization in the General Assembly had been proposed by Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. The Economic Cooperation Organization had been established to promote technical, economic and cultural cooperation among its members and had an important role to play in strengthening regional security and thereby promoting the aims of the United Nations in the region. His delegation therefore wished to propose that the Committee should recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of item 152 in the agenda.

67. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 152 in the agenda.

Item 153

68. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Papua New Guinea had asked to participate in the discussion of item 153 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

69. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Lohia (Papua New Guinea) took a place at the Committee table.

70. Mr. LOHIA (Papua New Guinea) referred to a request contained in document A/48/142 for the inclusion of an item in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly entitled "United Nations Initiative on Opportunity and Participation". The international community placed a high value on democratic practices, human rights and sustainable development, but translating such practices into economic reality was not possible in many countries. In many parts of the third world, there was little access to economic opportunity, resulting in widespread poverty. The purpose of the item was to identify the problems in gaining access to economic opportunity and to provide practical solutions.

71. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 153 in the agenda.

72. Mr. Lohia (Papua New Guinea) withdrew.

Item 154

73. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of New Zealand had asked to participate in the discussion of item 154 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

74. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. McKinnon (New Zealand) took a place at the Committee table.

75. Mr. McKINNON (New Zealand) said that his delegation was proposing the inclusion of an item entitled "Question of responsibility for attacks on United Nations and associated personnel and measures to ensure that those responsible for such attacks are brought to justice" in document A/48/144 because of the sharp increase in the number of casualties suffered in United Nations peace-keeping operations. None of the persons responsible for such attacks had yet been brought to justice anywhere in the world, and the international community should not tolerate the situation. The United Nations should have at its disposal the means to hold personally responsible those who attacked its personnel. The legal issues were unclear and should be addressed by the General Assembly.

76. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 154 in the agenda.

77. Mr. McKinnon (New Zealand) withdrew.

Item 155

78. The CHAIRMAN said that the inclusion of item 155 had been requested in document A/48/145.

79. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 155 in the agenda.

Item 156

80. The CHAIRMAN said that the inclusion of item 156 had been proposed by the Secretary-General in document A/48/146.

81. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 156 in the agenda.

Item 157

82. The CHAIRMAN said that the inclusion of item 157, entitled "Effective realization of the right of self-determination through autonomy" had been proposed by Liechtenstein in document A/48/147.

83. Mr. MARKER (Pakistan) said that his delegation was in general agreement with the proposed item but would prefer the deletion of the words "through autonomy" in the title, because autonomy was only one of the various ways in which the right to self-determination could be exercised. The phrase "without prejudice to the exercise of this right by peoples under foreign and colonial occupation and alien domination" might be added to the title, ensuring a comprehensive treatment of the issue. Its addition should pose no problem since the right of self-determination was universally recognized and figured in many consensus resolutions of the General Assembly.

84. Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) said that his delegation was of the view that the item had implications for the role of the United Nations in international affairs. The principle of autonomy for administrative units was laudable, but the suggestion that the United Nations should consider the extent of the autonomy to be enjoyed by the constituent parts of a Member State impinged on Article 27 of the Charter. Furthermore, the matter was being addressed in the Third and Fourth Committees.

85. Mr. KALPAGE (Sri Lanka) said that the concept of self-determination as enshrined in Article 1 of the United Nations Charter and both International Covenants on Human Rights was continuing to develop and was being monitored in many international forums. Furthermore, at its forty-seventh session, the General Assembly had taken a landmark decision on the rights of minorities. Therefore, ample opportunity already existed to examine the question under other items, such as item 109. The realization of the right to self-determination as described in document A/48/147 was best dealt with in internal negotiations. An open-ended interpretation of the concept could lead to fragmentation and should not lead, for instance, to interference by illegal armed groups with legitimate processes such as national elections.

86. Ms. FRITSCHÉ (Liechtenstein) said that her delegation could not accept the deletion of the words "through autonomy" as proposed by the representative of Pakistan. With regard to the additional phrase he had suggested, her delegation had made it clear that it saw the proposed approach as separate from decolonization, but the substantive concerns raised by the representative of Pakistan could be accommodated by including appropriate wording in the draft resolution.

87. Mr. GOZELIK (Russian Federation) said that his delegation agreed that the theme of the proposed item had merit. However, given the financial crisis the United Nations was facing, the General Assembly should seek to streamline its work and simplify the agenda by grouping or clustering items in accordance with resolution 45/45, paragraph 4. Since item 109 already dealt with the issue, it would be logical to include the proposed item as a sub-item for consideration by the Third Committee.

88. Mrs. FRECHETTE (Canada) said that her delegation supported the inclusion of the proposed item as a sub-item of item 109.

89. Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) said that if the phrase suggested by the representative of Pakistan was included in a draft resolution, he hoped that the language of prior resolutions on self-determination would be used.

90. Mr. MARKER (Pakistan) said that his delegation supported the inclusion of the item.

91. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) pointed out that the right of self-determination applied to all peoples, not some. His delegation supported the proposal of the Russian Federation to include the item as a sub-item under agenda item 109.

92. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 157 as a sub-item under agenda item 109.

#### Item 158

93. Mr. MARTINI HERRERA (Guatemala), said that his delegation had joined with a number of others in proposing the inclusion in the agenda of an item entitled "Consideration of the exceptional situation of the Republic of China in Taiwan in the international context, based on the principle of universality and in accordance with the established model of parallel representation of divided countries at the United Nations". The study suggested in paragraph 6 of document A/48/191 and in paragraph 1 of the proposed draft resolution contained in its annex deserved the consideration of the General Assembly. in view of the fact that the question of Taiwan had long been a source of instability in the Asia and Pacific region.

94. The current atmosphere of openness and democratization favoured the enhanced effectiveness of the United Nations, and would allow it to examine the situation of the many millions of people who wished to be represented and to

(Mr. Martini Herrera, Guatemala)

participate actively in the life and institutions of the international community. In paragraphs 10 and 14 of his Report on the Work of the Organization (A/48/1) the Secretary-General referred to the need for the participation of the population in the development of a State and a profound renewed concept of the State. The purpose of the request for inclusion of that item was to study the situation in order to seek an equitable, rational and practical solution allowing a significant population to have full representation in the United Nations and to make their contribution to the promotion of economic, social and political development. The proposed study would reaffirm the fundamental principles of sovereign equality of all Member States and would emphasize the peaceful settlement of disputes, the non-use of force or the threat of force against the territorial integrity or the political independence of any State, and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States. An equitable solution could be found that would strengthen peace and harmonious coexistence.

95. Mr. LI Zhaoxing (China) said that his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of item 158 in the agenda of the forty-eighth session. There was no legal basis for the request, which ran counter to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Furthermore, the item constituted wanton interference in the internal affairs of a Member State. The sponsors' statements in the explanatory memorandum (document A/48/191, annex I), disregarded the historical facts and objective realities. The request to include the agenda item was also contrary to General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), adopted in 1971, which had already decided the question of China's representation in the United Nations. That resolution, adopted by an overwhelming majority, unequivocally stated that the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China were the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations and that the People's Republic of China was one of the five permanent members of the Security Council. The resolution had also been the basis for restoring the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations and expelling from the United Nations and its relevant agencies the representatives of the Taiwan authorities who had usurped China's seat since 1949. It had settled, once and for all, the question of China's representation in the United Nations politically, legally and procedurally. The so-called Taiwan's return to the United Nations or its membership or participation in the Organization should not be considered.

96. Moreover, under Article 4 of the Charter of the United Nations, only sovereign States could apply for membership. It was well known that there was only one China in the world, namely, the People's Republic of China, and that Taiwan was an inalienable part of China and had been since ancient times. As a province of China, Taiwan had no right whatsoever to be a member of the United Nations. Any attempt to cite the "principle of universality" as justification for Taiwan's participation in the United Nations would set an abominable precedent of violating the Charter, infringing the sovereignty and interfering in the internal affairs of Member States.

(Mr. Li Zhaoxing, China)

97. In conclusion, the question of Taiwan was purely an internal affair of China. The Chinese Government was committed to its peaceful settlement and to the reunification of the Chinese nation. The Government of China would continue to uphold the principle of "one China" and firmly oppose any attempts to create "two Chinas", "one China, one Taiwan" or "an independent Taiwan".

98. Mr. MARKER (Pakistan) said that his delegation also opposed the inclusion of the item and fully supported the Chinese statement. The language of the proposed item was misleading and reflected a blatant effort to interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign Member State. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) had categorically settled the issue and restored to the People's Republic of China the rightful seat it had been denied for so many years. As Taiwan was a province of China and not a sovereign State, it was not eligible to apply for membership under Article 4 of the Charter or under the model of parallel representation.

99. Mr. PURSOO (Grenada) noted that the optimism of the post-cold-war era had been tempered by heightened conflict throughout the world. The United Nations should promote dialogue in order to deal with that situation more realistically. Grenada had relations with the Republic of China in Taiwan and could easily identify its territory. It recognized the developments of democracy there and the Government of the Republic of China in Taiwan and respected the right of its 21 million people to speak for themselves. It was of increasing concern to many that the Republic of China in Taiwan, with its considerable industrial base and potential to play a role in international affairs, should be excluded from discussions on international conventions in such vital areas as human rights and the environment.

100. Mr. NYAKYI (United Republic of Tanzania) said that his delegation, too, was opposed to the inclusion of the item. In 1971, the General Assembly had put an end to over 30 years of debate on the representation of China. The request contained in document A/48/191 marked the first time that the unity and territorial integrity of China and its sovereignty over Taiwan were being questioned. As long as Taiwan had been able to maintain the fiction that it represented China, it had affirmed the unity of China. When that fiction could no longer be sustained, it had invented yet another fiction - that it was a sovereign and independent State. The request violated the Charter of the United Nations which urged non-interference in the affairs of sovereign States, and of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI); it should be denied. The Government of the People's Republic of China was to be commended for acknowledging China's problems and for its commitment to resolving them. The international community should not aggravate the situation by encouraging the country's dismemberment.

101. Mr. KALPAGE (Sri Lanka) said that his delegation believed there was only one China and its capital was Beijing. The question of the reunification of China was a matter for the Chinese people to decide. His delegation welcomed the discussions being held between the People's Republic of China and representatives of Taiwan but did not believe reunification would be promoted by the proposals contained in document A/48/191. Furthermore, as yet there was no established model of parallel representation of divided countries. The Chinese situation bore only a superficial resemblance to the situation of the former

(Mr. Kalpage, Sri Lanka)

German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany, or that of the Republic of Korea and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which had reached a prior agreement between themselves on parallel representation. His delegation opposed the inclusion of the item.

102. Mr. KHARRAZI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation opposed the inclusion of item 158, as the question had already been settled in 1971 by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

103. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) said that his delegation had always supported General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which recognized the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations, and saw no reason to question it at that juncture. His delegation was opposed to the inclusion of item 158.

104. Mr. KABIR (Bangladesh) said that the issue of China's representation to the United Nations had been permanently resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) and his delegation was not in favour of including item 158. In the interest of rationalizing its work, the General Assembly should focus on real and vital issues, not on non-issues or matters that had already been settled.

105. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) warned against interference in the internal affairs of China. General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) was clear regarding the existence of one China and regarding Chinese representation at the United Nations. Surely, the General Assembly was not about to revoke that resolution. His delegation was opposed to the inclusion of item 158.

106. Mr. GOZELIK (Russian Federation) said that his delegation objected to the inclusion of the item. The sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China must be respected. The Russian position was based on the fact that there was only one China and that the representatives of the People's Republic of China, as the only legitimate representatives to the United Nations in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), represented the whole of China.

107. Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) said that his delegation recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only Government of China. That position had also been taken by the international community in adopting General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which India had supported. His delegation opposed any proposal that sought to undermine the resolution and it was opposed to the inclusion of item 158.

108. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Nicaragua had asked to participate in a discussion of item 158 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

109. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Vilchez Asher (Nicaragua) took a place at the Committee table.

/...

110. Mr. VILCHEZ ASHER (Nicaragua) said that his delegation fully supported the Guatemalan and Grenadian statements. He noted that changes in recent years had led to the establishment of new States and entities which had joined the United Nations. The international community must seek not only to understand the sweeping changes taking place but it must also find ways and means of resolving situations that had originated during the cold war. The Organization, if it was to rise to new post-cold-war circumstances, must avoid any appearance of selectively applying the principles of the Charter.

111. Recognition by the United Nations of the rights of the people of the Republic of China in Taiwan would be consistent with the principles of non-selectivity, universality and the legal equality of States. In considering the exceptional situation, the General Assembly would be recognizing the fundamental rights of the 21 million inhabitants of Taiwan, a dynamic, progressive, peace-loving and hard-working member of the international community. In the light of the new international situation, it would not reflect credit on the United Nations if it failed to deal with a problem that had been pending for many years. The 21 million people residing in Taiwan fervently hoped that the Organization would recognize their right, just as it had recognized the rights of other peoples all over the world, to be represented at the United Nations and participate in its programmes and debates. The people and Government of the Republic of China in Taiwan fulfilled all the legal, political and other conditions for consideration by the General Assembly. In keeping with the lofty responsibilities of the United Nations in a new era, the General Committee should recommend that the General Assembly should include the item in its agenda.

112. Mr. KUKAN (Slovakia) said that his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of item 158. It believed that there was one China and that the issue of Chinese representation to the United Nations had been dealt with in the relevant General Assembly resolution.

113. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should not include item 158 in the agenda.

114. Mr. Vilchez Asher (Nicaragua) withdrew.

Items 159 and 160

115. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 159 and 160 in the agenda.

Item 161

116. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Panama had asked to participate in the discussion of item 161 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

117. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Arosemena (Panama) took a place at the Committee table.

118. Mr. AROSEMENA (Panama) noted that inclusion of the item had been requested by almost all the Latin American countries. The Latin American Parliament was composed of the parliaments of all the Latin American countries. It had been established in 1964 and enjoyed the status of international regional organization under the Lima Treaty of 1987, which was currently in force. Closer ties to the parliaments which shaped the international policy and adopted the budgets of the Latin American countries would greatly benefit the United Nations. His delegation, on behalf of the sponsors, requested inclusion of the item in the agenda.

119. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 161 in the agenda.

120. Mr. Arosemena (Panama) withdrew.

Item 162

121. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Sweden had asked to participate in the discussion of item 162 in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

122. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Rydberg (Sweden) took a place at the Committee table.

123. Mr. RYDBERG (Sweden) said that, in exercise of the Chairmanship-in-Office of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and on behalf of other Member States of the United Nations who were also participating States in the Conference, his delegation wished to request the inclusion of the item in the agenda. Although the request had not yet been distributed, its contents were identical to the request contained in the annex of document A/48/231. His delegation would address the substance of the issue at a later date. He wished to draw the Committee's attention to General Assembly resolution 47/10 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and to the memorandum of understanding signed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman-in-Office of CSCE, which had been circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and the Security Council.

124. Mr. Rydberg (Sweden) withdrew.

Items 163 to 165

125. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include items 163 to 165 in the agenda.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

**FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE

2nd meeting

held on

Wednesday, 22 September 1993

at 3.30 p.m.

New York

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY

(President of the General Assembly)

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ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS: MEMORANDUM BY THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued)

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.2  
12 October 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 4.05 p.m.

ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS: MEMORANDUM BY THE SECRETARY-  
GENERAL (continued) (A/BUR/48/1 and Add.1)

Section V. Allocation of items

Paragraph 46

1. The CHAIRMAN noted that, in paragraph 46, the Secretary-General informed the Committee that the allocation of items was based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous years, with the exception of the items previously allocated to the former Special Political Committee and to the former Fourth Committee, which, in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 47/233, had been allocated to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Committee decided to draw the General Assembly's attention to paragraph 4 of its decision 34/401.

3. The CHAIRMAN noted that in paragraph 46, the Secretary-General drew the Committee's attention to paragraph 5 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 39/88 B, which recommended that the Chairmen of the Main Committees should take the initiative, in the light of past experience, to propose the grouping of similar or related items and the holding of a single general debate on them, and to paragraph 6 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 45/45, which recommended that the General Committee, in making recommendations as to how agenda items should be allocated to the Main Committees and the plenary of the General Assembly, should ensure the best use of the expertise of the Committees.

Paragraph 47

4. The CHAIRMAN drew the Committee's attention to 11 items and 1 sub-item of the draft agenda which had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. He invited the Committee to consider the recommendations it should make regarding the allocation of those items.

5. In connection with sub-item (b) of item 140, he noted that item 140 was customarily allocated to the Fifth Committee.

6. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that sub-item (b) of item 140 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

7. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsors of items 152 and 153 had proposed that those items should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

8. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 152 and 153 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

9. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsor of item 154 had proposed that the item should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.

10. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 154 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.

11. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsors of item 155 had proposed that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

12. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 155 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

13. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsor of item 156 had proposed that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

14. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Colombia had asked to participate in the discussion of item 156. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to accede to his request.

15. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Rey (Colombia) took a place at the Committee table.

16. Mr. REY (Colombia), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that in document A/48/146 the Secretary-General requested that the item entitled "United Nations interim offices" should be included as an additional item in the provisional agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly and should be considered directly in plenary meeting. The Group of 77 and China, however, believed that the item should be considered by the Second Committee, as a sub-item of the item entitled "Operational activities for development". The question of interim offices had been considered on many occasions over the past two years, in the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Committee on Information and the Fifth Committee. The most recent legislative provision was decision 47/469, adopted by consensus, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that his proposals relating to the structure, functions and activities of the seven United Nations interim offices fully complied with the mandates of the relevant General Assembly resolutions pertaining to operational activities and dissemination of information, in particular resolutions 47/199 and 47/73, and decided that the report to be presented by the Secretary-General should be submitted also to the Second Committee for its consideration and recommendations. In the light of those considerations, and in view of the contents of the report of the Secretary-General on the subject (A/47/146/Add.1), the Group of 77 and China believed that the Second Committee was the appropriate body to deal with the matter, and that the item entitled "Operational activities for development" was the appropriate context for substantive consideration by the General Assembly of the Secretary-General's proposals regarding interim offices.

17. Mr. SEVAN (Assistant Secretary-General, Department of Political Affairs) said that the item entitled "Operational activities for development" was concerned with operational activities of the United Nations system; UNDP; the United Nations Population Fund; the United Nations Children's Fund; and the World Food Programme. In paragraph (d) of decision 47/469, the General Assembly took note of the provisional and exceptional arrangements in place, undertaken

(Mr. Sevan)

by the Secretary-General, and stressed that they might continue until the General Assembly had taken a policy decision on the matter at its forty-eighth session.

18. The report by the Secretary-General (A/48/146/Add.1) had been prepared in response to the General Assembly's wish, expressed in decision 47/469, to take a policy decision on the question of interim offices at its forty-eighth session. The report was therefore a broad, policy-oriented document which described the Secretary-General's overall approach to interim offices and the role that they could play in developing a more unified United Nations presence at the country level. As had been recognized by the General Assembly during its consideration of the issue at its forty-seventh session, the question of interim offices touched on a number of issues which were considered each year in a number of the Main Committees. In those circumstances, the Secretary-General suggested that it would be appropriate for the General Assembly, early in the current session, to take a broad policy decision on the matter, in order to provide a basis for discussion of its more detailed aspects in the relevant Main Committees. It was for that reason that the Secretary-General had requested that his report should be considered directly in plenary.

19. In the Secretary-General's view, it would not be appropriate for the new item to be made a sub-item under "Operational activities for development" because the interim offices concept extended beyond operational activities for development. The aim was to enhance the coordination, in certain countries, of the whole range of United Nations activities, including operational activities for development and activities related to humanitarian assistance, public information, human rights, preventive diplomacy and peacemaking, where such activities enjoyed the consent of the host Government and had been mandated by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other intergovernmental bodies. The Secretary-General therefore continued to believe that the new item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

20. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) fully supported the views of the representative of Colombia, but suggested, as a compromise, that the item could perhaps be considered first in plenary meeting and later in the Second Committee.

21. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) and Mr. AGUILAR-HECHT (Guatemala) suggested that the Committee should defer a decision on the matter so as to allow the regional groups more time to consider its broader implications.

22. It was so decided.

23. Mr. REY (Colombia) withdrew.

24. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsor of item 157, which was now a sub-item under item 109, had proposed that it should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

25. Mrs. FRITSCHÉ (Liechtenstein) said that her delegation had requested that item 157 be considered directly in plenary meeting for a number of reasons. The Head of State of Liechtenstein was closely involved with the item, having introduced it in his first statement to the General Assembly during the general

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(Mrs. Fritsche, Liechtenstein)

debate in 1991 and having actively followed the relevant discussions since then. He had been present throughout the meeting of experts held in Liechtenstein in March 1993 and planned to say more on the subject when he addressed the General Assembly during the general debate at the current session. Moreover, he was prepared to attend the General Assembly at the current session for the debate on the item, and, as a Head of State, it would be appropriate for him to participate in a plenary meeting of the General Assembly.

26. The item raised some very important issues affecting both the future direction in which the principle of self-determination might develop and the mechanisms whereby armed conflict, particularly civil war, might be avoided. It was appropriate that those issues, which touched the heart of what the United Nations stood for, should first be debated in plenary meeting where the Members of the United Nations could, at an appropriate level, express their initial views on the value of the Liechtenstein initiative and the direction which further discussion might take.

27. Her delegation therefore suggested that the debate on the item should take place directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that action on the item could be taken in the Third Committee.

28. Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) said that, since the Committee had already decided to recommend that item 157 should be included in the agenda as a sub-item of item 109, the debate on it should take place in the Third Committee rather than in plenary meeting.

29. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) pointed out that a similar issue had arisen at the forty-second session regarding a sub-item of an item which was to be allocated to the Sixth Committee and that the Committee had decided to recommend that the item should be allocated to the Sixth Committee on the understanding that the sub-item in question would be introduced at a plenary meeting. In the light of that precedent, he suggested that item 157 should be allocated to the Third Committee but should be introduced at a plenary meeting before being considered by that Committee.

30. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 157 should be introduced at a plenary meeting on the understanding that action on the item would be taken in the Third Committee.

31. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsors of item 159 had proposed that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

32. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 159 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

33. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsors of item 160 had proposed that the item should be allocated to the First Committee.

34. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) said that, while he could agree that item 160 should be allocated to the First Committee, in view of the merger of the Special Political Committee and the Fourth Committee, he felt that it would be useful if either the Chairman of the General Committee or the Chairmen of the First Committee and

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(Mr. Elaraby, Egypt)

the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) could hold consultations regarding the agendas of those two Main Committees with a view to achieving a balance in the number of items allocated to each.

35. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 160 should be allocated to the First Committee.

36. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsors of items 161 and 162 had proposed that those items should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

37. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that items 161 and 162 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

38. The CHAIRMAN said that the sponsor of item 165 had proposed that the item should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.

39. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 165 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.

#### Paragraph 48

40. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should adopt the proposals in paragraph 48 of the Secretary-General's memorandum, relating to item 12.

#### Paragraph 49

41. The Committee decided, with regard to item 18, to recommend to the General Assembly that all the chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to specific Territories should be referred to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), thus enabling the Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

#### Paragraph 50

42. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that in paragraph 50, in connection with item 20 and item 115 (b), the Secretary-General referred to decision 47/429 regarding the award of human rights prizes in 1993.

43. The Committee decided to recommend that the award ceremony for the award of human rights prizes in 1993 should be held on Friday, 10 December 1993, on the occasion of the forty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Paragraph 51

44. The Committee decided to recommend that, in accordance with the procedure followed at previous sessions, item 38 should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that the representatives of the Organization of African Unity and of national liberation movements recognized by that organization would be permitted to participate in the discussion in plenary meeting, and that organizations and individuals having a special interest in the question would be permitted to be heard by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

Paragraph 52

45. The Committee decided to recommend that, as at previous sessions, the General Assembly should consider item 46 directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

Paragraph 53

46. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 54 should be allocated at an appropriate time during the session.

Paragraph 54

47. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency dealing with the subject-matter of item 71 should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of that item.

Paragraph 55

48. The Committee decided, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 16 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 39/125, to recommend that the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the operations, management and budget of the United Nations Development Fund for Women should be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 95 (Operational activities for development).

Paragraph 56

49. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to paragraph 1 of resolution 47/99 of 16 December 1992, in which the General Assembly, *inter alia*, had decided to hold four plenary meetings, at a high level, at its forty-eighth session, to examine urgently the status of international cooperation against the illicit production, sale, demand, traffic and distribution of narcotics and psychotropic substances.

50. The Committee decided to recommend to the Assembly that those plenary meetings should be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 26 and 27 October 1993.

Paragraph 57

51. The Committee decided to recommend that item 127 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee, on the understanding that the reports of the Joint Inspection Unit dealing with subject-matters assigned to other Main Committees would be referred to those Committees.

Paragraph 54a (A/BUR/48/1/Add.1)

52. The Committee decided to recommend that the launching of the International Year of the Family should take place on Tuesday, 7 December, in the morning.

Paragraph 58

Items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting

53. The CHAIRMAN said that the representatives of Afghanistan, Belgium and Nicaragua had asked to participate in the discussion of the item. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to accede to their requests.

54. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan), Mr. Brouhns (Belgium) and Mr. Stadthagen (Nicaragua) took places at the Committee table.

55. Mr. BROUHNS (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, said that, while the Community welcomed the recent progress made in rationalizing the work of the General Assembly, it believed that further improvements were possible. For instance, the situation whereby draft resolutions on agenda items relating to international assistance were discussed both in the Second Committee and in plenary meeting was unsatisfactory. From the substantive point of view, questions relating to international assistance logically fell within the purview of the Second Committee; moreover, the consideration of such texts in plenary meeting made ad hoc negotiations necessary, and thus duplicated the work of the Second Committee. Lastly, the texts discussed and decided on in the Second Committee were, in any case, ultimately adopted in plenary meeting, at which time the delegations concerned could make whatever comments they might deem necessary.

56. Accordingly, the Community and its member States believed that all the items relating to international assistance - in particular, items 41 (relating to Afghanistan) and 45 (relating to Nicaragua), which had been proposed for consideration in plenary meeting - should be allocated to the Second Committee. The proposal by the representative of Afghanistan that the title of item 41 should be amended did not really affect the substance of the issue. While draft resolutions on such items obviously contained political elements, since they often dealt with conflict situations or their aftermath, their subject-matter remained essentially economic. Moreover, in the case of item 45, the political and security situation in Nicaragua would be covered by a draft resolution adopted under item 40.

57. Mr. GHAFORZAI (Afghanistan) said that, in the light of its first year of experience, his Government had concluded that the objective of economic reconstruction could be achieved only under satisfactory political and security circumstances. Accordingly, his Government believed that the item relating to international assistance for the reconstruction of Afghanistan should be considered in a forum in which all of its aspects could be discussed. His delegation would therefore be grateful if the European Community could accede to its request that the item be considered in plenary meeting. If, however, his delegation could be certain that the Second Committee would permit discussion of the political aspects of the draft resolution which his Government would eventually propose on the item, it would have no difficulty in accepting the European Community's proposal.

58. Mr. STADTHAGEN (Nicaragua) said that his delegation understood the concerns of the European Community with regard to the rationalization of the Assembly's agenda. However, the consolidation of peace in Nicaragua required a sustained commitment by the United Nations to provide all possible assistance for the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the country, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 47/169. Attention must be given to such areas as the settlement of displaced and demobilized persons and refugees, land ownership and land tenure in rural areas, direct care for war victims, and mine clearance.

59. In view of the complex political context in which his Government was endeavouring to consolidate peace and lay the groundwork for democracy, it was easy to understand why his delegation wished the item to be considered in plenary meeting. His delegation would, however, be willing to reconsider its position in the future, if circumstances so permitted.

60. Mr. AGUILAR-HECHT (Guatemala) supported the Nicaraguan delegation's request.

61. Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom) said that the European Community's proposal was not intended to suggest that the items concerned were of less importance than those which were to be considered in plenary meeting; its purpose had simply been to rationalize the work of the General Assembly by having items which appeared to relate to similar subjects dealt with by the same Committee. Obviously, all the Main Committees, including the Second Committee, took account of all aspects of the items allocated to them, including any relevant political aspects. It was not appropriate for the General Committee to discuss the terms of an eventual draft resolution; that was a matter to be dealt with by delegations in the appropriate bodies and at the relevant time. He endorsed the comments made by the representative of Afghanistan, which had pointed the way towards a consensus on the proposal regarding the allocation of the items concerned to the Second Committee.

62. Mr. STADTHAGEN (Nicaragua) said that the action which could be expected to be called for in the future in the draft resolution to be adopted on item 45 did not normally fall within the purview of the Second Committee, and that the division of labour among the Main Committees of the General Assembly was one of the most important aspects of the rationalization of its work.

63. Mr. TAKHT-RAVANCHI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation shared the views expressed by the representative of Afghanistan, namely, that other matters besides economic issues must be discussed if the General Assembly was to deal with the situation in Afghanistan. His delegation therefore believed that item 41 should be considered in plenary meeting.

64. Mr. GHAFORZAI (Afghanistan) said that, while his delegation would prefer item 41 to be considered in plenary meeting, it would not stand in the way of a consensus on the question.

65. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the matter should be deferred pending informal consultations.

66. Mr. Ghafoorzai (Afghanistan), Mr. Brouhns (Belgium) and Mr. Stadthagen (Nicaragua) withdrew.

67. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting, including items 152, 153, 155, 159, 161 and 162, excluding item 54 and bearing in mind its decision on item 157, should be allocated to the plenary Assembly, while it reserved a decision on items 41, 45 and 156.

Items proposed for consideration by the First Committee

68. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the First Committee, including item 160, should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

69. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), taking into accounts its decision on the item entitled "Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India" and its decision on the item entitled "Question of East Timor", should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee

70. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee

71. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee, bearing in mind its decision on item 157, should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee

72. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee, including item 140 (b), should be allocated to that Committee.

Items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee

73. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee, including items 154 and 165, should be allocated to that Committee.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

**FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE  
3rd meeting  
held on  
Friday, 24 September 1993  
at 9.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY

(President of the General Assembly)

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ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
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ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.3  
19 October 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

ORGANIZATION OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,  
ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS: MEMORANDUM BY THE  
SECRETARY-GENERAL (continued) (A/BUR/48/1 and Add.1)

Section V. Allocation of items (continued)

Item 41

1. The CHAIRMAN said that, following consultations, the Committee wished to recommend that item 41 should be allocated to the Second Committee on the understanding that it would be introduced in plenary meeting and considered in the Second Committee.

2. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 41 should be allocated to the Second Committee.

Item 45

3. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 45 should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Item 156

4. The CHAIRMAN said that, in the light of the statements made at the previous meeting and of consultations with delegations and the Secretariat, he had the impression that the Committee wished to allocate item 156 to the Second Committee, although it had taken due note of the Secretary-General's request that item 156 should be considered directly in plenary meeting on the grounds that the interim office concept extended beyond that of operational activities for development.

5. Mr. GOZELIK (Russian Federation) said his delegation felt that the concept of interim offices was directly related to the current role of the United Nations in an interdependent world in which political, socio-economic, humanitarian and other aspects were closely linked. The United Nations needed to take an integrated approach to the needs and challenges it faced in the modern world. As noted in the Secretary-General's report (A/48/146/Add.1), a unified United Nations presence at the country level was an important component of that approach and was essential in order to improve inter-agency cooperation not only in the social and economic sphere but also in the political, peacemaking and other areas. If the concept of interim offices were limited to operational activities for development and programme coordination it would restrict the debate. His delegation therefore felt that item 156 should be considered in plenary meeting. If no agreement could be reached, a decision should be deferred to allow further consultations.

6. Mr. AGUILAR-HECHT (Guatemala) recalled that in paragraph (b) of its decision 47/469, the General Assembly had requested the Secretary-General to ensure that his proposals relating to the structure, functions and activities of the seven United Nations interim offices in question fully complied with the

(Mr. Aguilar-Hecht, Guatemala)

mandates of the relevant General Assembly resolutions pertaining to operational activities and dissemination of information, in particular resolutions 47/199 and 47/73. Item 156 must therefore be considered within the framework of operational activities for development as a sub-item.

7. Mr. Wood (United Kingdom) said that his delegation supported the Secretary-General's proposal that item 156 should be considered directly in plenary meeting. For the reasons given by the Secretary-General and the representative of the Russian Federation, it would not be appropriate to deal with the item exclusively in the Second Committee. If agreement could not be reached, a decision should be deferred to allow for further consultations. The allocation of the item to the plenary Assembly would not in any way inhibit delegations from expressing their views.

8. The CHAIRMAN said that the representative of Colombia had asked to participate in the discussion of the item. If he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to accede to his request.

9. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Jaramillo (Colombia) took a place at the Committee table.

10. Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia) said that the General Assembly had already decided that the item should be part of the item entitled "Operational activities for development" and had requested the Secretary-General to submit a report. It was for that reason that the members of the Group of 77 and China considered that the item should be considered in the Second Committee. The Secretary-General could always submit a further proposal at a later stage, and the General Assembly could then take it up.

11. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said that it had been clearly decided by the General Assembly that the question of United Nations interim offices should be considered by the Second Committee. In paragraph (c) of decision 47/469, the General Assembly had decided that the report to be presented by the Secretary-General should be submitted also to the Second Committee for its consideration and recommendations. It was, moreover, significant that the title of the decision was "Revised estimates under section 31 (Public information)". That decision derived from an earlier decision, resolution 34/213, paragraph 5, in which the General Assembly reaffirmed that the tasks of the resident coordinator should pertain exclusively to operational activities of the United Nations system.

12. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) said that he fully agreed that the Secretary-General's report should be referred to the Second Committee. There were, however, some aspects which were outside the scope of the Second Committee; for example, in section III of his report (A/48/146/Add.1), the Secretary-General referred to the legal status of interim offices, humanitarian activities and information, which were not within the competence of the Second Committee. The problem was not which Committee should discuss the report, since it should clearly go to the Second Committee, but what to do about the other aspects. It might be necessary to hold further consultations on that matter.

13. Mrs. FRECHETTE (Canada) said that at least four different options had been suggested by different delegations. It might therefore be wise to hold further consultations in order to avoid taking a divisive decision.

14. Mr. KHARRAZI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his delegation agreed that item 156 should be dealt with in the Second Committee. With regard to the comments made by the representative of Egypt, his delegation felt that the Secretary-General could always submit a further report, which could then be allocated for further consideration by the Committee.

15. Mr. HADID (Algeria) said that his delegation fully supported the position put forward by the representative of Colombia. The allocation of item 156 to the Second Committee did not in any way reduce its importance; in the framework of restructuring and revitalization, the Second Committee had a very important role to play. Furthermore, the item was to be a sub-item of the item entitled "Operational activities for development" and it was difficult to isolate a sub-item and transfer it to the plenary Assembly unless the whole item was transferred. It was important, moreover, to avoid overburdening the plenary Assembly.

16. Mr. SREENIVASAN (India) said that there seemed to be basic agreement that item 156 should be considered in the Second Committee. Moreover, many delegations, especially those from developing countries, did not want other aspects of the question to be considered outside the context of operational activities for development.

17. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) said that the Committee had already decided that item 156 would be a separate item, not a sub-item; moreover, decisions taken by previous sessions of the General Assembly could not be binding the current session in respect of procedure. The allocation of an item to the plenary Assembly did not bar its consideration elsewhere any more than its allocation to one committee or another would restrict its scope. The proposal made by the representative of Egypt offered a possibility of reaching agreement without having to resort to a vote.

18. Mr. LEGAL (France) said that the Committee should be able to reach agreement on the basis of the proposal put forward by the representative of Egypt.

19. Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia) said that he agreed with the representative of Egypt that the report under item 156 should be allocated to the Second Committee; there was a legislative basis for that course of action in General Assembly decision 47/469. There would, moreover, be enormous difficulties in reaching agreement on any other interpretation. The Group of 77 and China could not accept any political dimension of United Nations offices in their countries.

20. Mr. ELARABY (Egypt) said that he had indicated that, while the item should be allocated to the Second Committee it also had political dimensions which were clearly outside the purview of the Second Committee. Either those issues could be taken up by the General Assembly and then referred back to the Second Committee or a decision could be deferred pending further discussions.

21. The CHAIRMAN said that while there were many divergent views, he had made his suggestion on the basis of the consultations carried out before the meeting. He read out paragraphs (b) and (c) of decision 47/469 in the hope that it would help the Committee in its consideration of the matter.
22. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) said that the issue was where the item could best be discussed. The representative of Egypt had suggested that the various aspects of the item might be discussed in various forums. No decision regarding the allocation of the item could affect its scope, which had been spelled out in the report of the Secretary-General. It should be possible to find a compromise solution based on the representative of Egypt's suggestion. That, however, would require more time.
23. Mr. GOZELIK (Russian Federation) said that, judging from the trend of its discussions, the Committee was missing the main point of the Secretary-General's report, which stressed a broader approach to the matter. His delegation would like to avoid the kind of situation where the context of a discussion was limited; that could only have a negative impact on the scope and breadth of the discussion.
24. Mr. JARAMILLO (Colombia) said that he was concerned at the implication in the United States representative's earlier statement that General Assembly decisions were valid only for the session at which they were adopted.
25. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said it was important that there should be continuity and consistency in the work of the General Assembly. He could consider the representative of Canada's suggestion that further consultations should be held, provided that involved no more than a few hours' delay.
26. Mr. KALPAGE (Sri Lanka), supported by Mr. Li ZHAOXING (China), said it was right to stress the importance of the role and functions of the General Assembly, in particular, the continuity of its work. The Group of 77 unanimously agreed that item 156 should be allocated to the Second Committee. It was also agreed, however, that there were elements of the item which went beyond the competence of the Second Committee. If there were issues which were outside the competence of the Second Committee, they could be referred back to the General Committee for allocation elsewhere.
27. The CHAIRMAN reiterated that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee and that should the Committee realize that some issues fell outside its purview those issues could be brought to the attention of other Committees. If that decision was not acceptable then he would, regrettably, have to resort to a vote.
28. Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom) said that there were possibilities for a compromise on the issue but they had not yet been clearly formulated. A delay of a few days could enable such a compromise to be reached.
29. The CHAIRMAN said that he did not believe that time could contribute towards reaching any solution.
30. Mr. HADID (Algeria) pointed out that the Secretary-General's annual report on the work of the Organization (A/48/1) which would be discussed in plenary

(Mr. Hadid, Algeria)

meeting, dealt, inter alia, with the question of interim offices. The matter could thus be discussed when the plenary Assembly considered that report.

31. Mr. ROSENSTOCK (United States of America) said that item 156 had already been recommended for inclusion in the agenda. If other delegations did not object to its allocation to the Second Committee, he would not object either, although he felt that that was not the best solution.

32. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 156 should be allocated to the Second Committee, on the understanding that that Committee could seek the views of other Main Committees on aspects of the question which might be outside its competence.

33. Mr. Jaramillo (Colombia) withdrew.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS: REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/48/233)

34. The CHAIRMAN said that the inclusion of an item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observation Mission in Georgia" had been requested by the Secretary-General, who had suggested that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

35. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

36. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

The meeting rose at 11.30 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE

4th meeting

held on

Thursday, 7 October 1993

at 9.30 a.m.

New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 4th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Requests for the inclusion of additional items submitted by the  
Secretary-General

OTHER MATTERS

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Distr. GENERAL

A/DOK/48/SR.4

15 October 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

93-81442 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Requests for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Secretary-General (A/48/234, 235 and 236)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission Uganda-Rwanda" (A/48/234).
2. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda of its current session.
3. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.
4. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti" (A/48/235).
5. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda of its current session.
6. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.
7. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia" (A/48/236).
8. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda of its current session.
9. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

OTHER MATTERS

10. The CHAIRMAN said that, following the statements that had been made both in the General Committee and in plenary meetings concerning documentation and other meetings services, he had met with the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management, the Chairmen of the Main Committees and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and had established a working rapport with the Secretariat. The Secretariat was currently reviewing the limit on documentation and was making some adjustments to ensure that all permanent missions to the United Nations were adequately served.
11. The Secretariat was also considering ways to increase the number of meetings during the forty-eighth session. Although every effort would be made

to rationalize all conference services to meet the needs of the General Assembly and the Main Committees, the Secretariat would try to ensure that meetings ended at 6 p.m. and would avoid scheduling meetings on weekends. However, exceptions would be made for meetings of the Fifth Committee and ACABQ.

12. The Secretariat would make every effort to ensure the simultaneous distribution of documents in all languages. If that was not possible, documents would first be made available in the working languages of the Secretariat - English and French. He would hold regular coordination meetings with the Chairman of the Main Committees, the Under-Secretary-General for Administration and Management and the Office of Conference Services in order to ensure the smooth functioning of meetings during the current session.

The meeting rose at 9.55 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE

5th meeting

held on

Thursday, 14 October 1993

at 9.30 a.m.

New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 5th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Egypt

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Secretary-  
General

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.5  
21 October 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Egypt (A/48/237)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by Egypt for the inclusion of an item entitled "Building a peaceful and better world through sport" (A/48/237) in the agenda of the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.
2. Mrs. HASSAN (Egypt) drew the Committee's attention to the explanatory memorandum contained in document A/48/237. Inclusion of the item in the agenda of the General Assembly at the current session would not entail additional expenditure for the United Nations. She trusted that the Committee would approve the item for consideration in plenary meeting.
3. Mr. MUSUKA (Zambia), Mr. HADID (Algeria), Mr. MPINGA KASENDA (Zaire) and Mr. SHAUKAT (Pakistan) said that they supported the inclusion of the item.
4. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.
5. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by the Secretary-General (A/48/238)

6. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Personnel questions" (A/48/238) in the agenda of the General Assembly at its forty-eighth regular session.
7. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.
8. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

The meeting rose at 10 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

**FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE  
6th meeting  
held on  
Friday, 22 October 1993  
at 9.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 6th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Albania,  
Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania,  
Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.6  
9 December 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Ukraine (A/48/239)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by a number of countries for the inclusion of an item entitled "Economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)" (A/48/239) in the agenda of the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session.
2. The representative of Bulgaria had indicated his desire to address the Committee on the matter in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.
3. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Pashovski (Bulgaria) took a place at the Committee table.
4. Mr. PASHOVSKI (Bulgaria) said that, acknowledging the utmost importance of sanctions, the States neighbouring the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as other States from the region, had ensured the strict application of the measures imposed by the Security Council. Their considerable contribution had been recognized in relevant decisions of the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies. For reasons outlined in the explanatory memorandum in document A/48/239, the application of such a comprehensive set of trade and economic sanctions had placed an extraordinary burden on those States, with already grave consequences for their economic development and political and social stability. A timely and appropriate reaction by the General Assembly was therefore of utmost urgency in the interests of preserving security and stability in the region and in the world as a whole. Deliberations on the issue would in no way prejudice United Nations efforts to achieve a peaceful and lasting political solution to the Yugoslav crisis, and the States on whose behalf he spoke proposed that the additional agenda item should be allocated to the Second Committee and clustered with similar topics already on its agenda.
5. Mrs. VASISHT (India) said that her Government fully supported the inclusion of the additional item as requested. India had been concerned for some time about various conflict sites in the world where third countries were experiencing difficulties owing to compliance with sanctions flowing from duly authorized international action. Article 50 of the Charter made provision for just such situations, on which discussions were proceeding also in other fora and to which resolution 47/120 was relevant. India was confident that discussion of the new item in the Second Committee would not prejudice any other ongoing discussions.
6. Mr. WOOD (United Kingdom) said that his delegation also endorsed the request for the inclusion of a new item to be allocated to the Second Committee. It was pleased that the explanatory memorandum emphasized the primary and indispensable responsibility of States in assuring the strict application of

(Mr. Wood, United Kingdom)

mandatory sanctions, but it noted that a combination of factors made their implementation especially onerous for the countries of the region. The Security Council had already acted in support of those countries and had offered assistance in the management of sanctions, but much more could and should be done. The inclusion of the new item would heighten awareness of the problems being faced by the countries affected.

7. Mr. FEDOTOV (Russian Federation) said that his delegation supported the inclusion of the additional item requested and its allocation to the Second Committee. The economic consequences of sanctions were very serious for the States of Central and Southern Europe and deserved careful consideration by the United Nations.

8. Mr. LEGAL (France) said that his delegation endorsed the inclusion of the additional item proposed. The acuteness of the problems faced by the countries of the region - whether or not they were sponsors of the proposal - was not debatable, and required serious consideration by the United Nations. The discussion of possible measures to alleviate the problem should of course take into account constraints like the need to preserve balance between institutions and the need for a realistic approach to budgetary questions; but there remained a margin for some initiatives.

9. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said that his Government fully supported the inclusion of the additional item. It felt, however, that there should always be regular evaluation of any sanctions imposed under the Charter.

10. Mrs. FRITSCHÉ (Liechtenstein) and Mrs. FLORES (Uruguay) said that they supported the inclusion of the item.

11. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

12. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

The meeting rose at 10 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

**FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE  
7th meeting  
held on  
Monday, 1 November 1993  
at 9.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 7th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Burundi

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.7  
7 December 1993  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

The meeting was called to order at 9.45 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Burundi (A/48/240)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request for the inclusion in the agenda of an additional item entitled "The situation in Burundi" (A/48/240). The representative of Burundi had indicated that he wished to take the floor in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and he invited him to take a place at the Committee table.
2. Mr. SINUNGURUZA (Burundi) said that the international community had been closely following the situation in his country since 21 October 1993, the date on which a group of military personnel had overthrown the democratically elected institutions by assassinating the head of State, a number of ministers and other members of the National Assembly. The coup d'état had aroused the old demons of ethnic division in the population and Burundi was now experiencing a war between ethnic groups that had turned 400,000 inhabitants into refugees and displaced persons and was so violent that peoples and countries that cherished peace and justice could not remain indifferent.
3. In those circumstances, the international community had the duty to help Burundi restore peace and security and its democratic institutions and provide urgent assistance to refugees and displaced persons. In the light of the urgency of this situation, his delegation had deemed it appropriate to request the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an additional item entitled "The situation in Burundi" and hoped that the request would be granted.
4. Mrs. HASSAN (Egypt) said that her country, which currently presided over the Organization of African Unity (OAU), had transmitted a memorandum to the Security Council expressing its profound concern at the situation in Burundi, to which it had sent a high-level representative. The General Assembly therefore must take steps to confront that troubling situation with a view to restoring order, protecting democratic institutions and avoiding the danger of civil war. Accordingly, her delegation strongly supported the request by Burundi for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda.
5. Mr. MONGBE (Benin) said that his country was following developments in the situation in Burundi closely and with deep concern. It fully supported the request by the representative of Burundi and pointed out that the draft resolution contained in document A/48/240 had received the support of all the members of the Group of African States at the United Nations.
6. Mr. OUEDRAOGO (Burkina Faso) also endorsed the request for the inclusion of an additional item in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly.

7. Mrs. SEMGURUKA (United Republic of Tanzania) said that as a neighbour, her country had closely followed the evolution of the situation in Burundi and it supported the inclusion of the proposed additional item in the agenda of the current session of the General Assembly.
8. Mr. JUMA (Zaire) said that the tragedy that had just stricken his country's brothers in Burundi had been painfully felt in his country, which received an ever-increasing number everyday of Burundi people seeking safety. His delegation condemned the coup d'état, which compromised the democratic process in Burundi, and fully supported the action taken by the Permanent Representative of that country in requesting the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly of an additional item entitled "The situation in Burundi".
9. Mr. MUSUKA (Zambia) said that unless the international community acted immediately, Burundi was likely to experience a civil war with possibly catastrophic consequences. His delegation therefore fully supported the request by Burundi for the inclusion of an additional item on the situation in that country.
10. Mr. BULL (Liberia) said that his country, which also was a victim of civil strife, fully sympathized with the Burundi people, who were now living through a very difficult time. His delegation therefore unreservedly supported the request for the inclusion of an additional item. It was indeed incumbent on the international community to do its utmost to restore peace and stability to the brother country of Burundi.
11. Mr. HADID (Algeria) expressed his solidarity with the Burundi people and supported the inclusion of the proposed additional item in the agenda as well as the draft resolution contained in the appendix to document A/48/240, which the Permanent Representative of his country would transmit to the General Assembly in his capacity as Chairman of the Group of African States for the month of November.
12. Mr. LEGAL (France) said that his country joined its African friends in expressing its sorrow and indignation at the recent events in Burundi, in particular, at the assassination of President Melchior Ndadaye, whose message of hope, democracy and national unity had been recalled by the Permanent Representative of Burundi in the moving and unanimous tribute which the General Assembly had recently paid to him. There could be no justification for the putsch perpetrated by a group of military personnel who had interrupted a democratic process that had been so long in coming, massacred the elected representatives of the people and thus once more plunged the country into ethnic divisions and confrontations. In those circumstances, a debate therefore should be held in the General Assembly in plenary, in order to convey to the perpetrators of the putsch the undisguised censure which their actions aroused in the international community, to convey to the Burundi people that the nations of the world stood in solidarity with them and to convey to the legitimate Government of Burundi, under the leadership of its Prime Minister, the support of the General Assembly and its encouragement to take heart.

13. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

14. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

The meeting rose at 10.05 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**  
FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION  
*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE  
8th meeting  
held on  
Thursday, 4 November 1993  
at 9.30 a.m.  
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 8th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Rwanda

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Cuba

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.8  
26 November 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 9.50 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Rwanda (A/48/241)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by Rwanda for the inclusion of an item entitled "Emergency assistance for the socio-economic rehabilitation of Rwanda" (A/48/241). The representative of Rwanda had asked to participate in the discussion of the item in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

2. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Bizimana (Rwanda) took a place at the Committee table.

3. Mr. BIZIMANA (Rwanda) said that on 1 October 1990 a devastating war had broken out in Rwanda following attacks launched from Uganda by the Rwandese Patriotic Front. As a result, the country had suffered a great deal of material damage and many people had been killed. More than 900,000 displaced persons, constituting 13 per cent of the Rwandese population, had been left completely destitute. The socio-economic infrastructure had been destroyed and basic services had collapsed in the regions where the fighting had taken place.

4. With regard to the economic situation, the war had destroyed a substantial amount of the socio-economic and administrative infrastructures and a great quantity of equipment and installations. The economy of Rwanda, which during the 1980s had already been suffering severe perturbations aggravated by the uncertainties of the international economic situation, had now suffered further damage as a result of the war. Mindful of the urgent need to put an end to the war, the Government of Rwanda and the Rwandese Patriotic Front had undertaken direct negotiations, which had led to the signing of the Arusha Peace Agreement on 4 August 1993, opening the way for a new era of peace and national reconciliation. The process of reconstruction and consolidating peace in Rwanda aimed at reviving the economy and resettling people displaced by the war, completing the ongoing democratization of the country and rehabilitating the damaged infrastructures.

5. Accordingly, Rwanda appealed to the international community to contribute to the success of that process. The Government and people of Rwanda requested the Committee to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda and that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

6. Mrs. HASSAN (Egypt), Mr. JUMA (Zaire), Ms. SEMGU (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. MONGBE (Benin), Mr. BULL (Liberia), Mr. HADID (Algeria) and Mr. KABORE (Burkina Faso) said that they supported the request made by the representative of Rwanda.

7. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

8. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Second Committee.

9. Mr. Bizimana (Rwanda) withdrew.

Request for the inclusion of an additional item submitted by Cuba (A/48/242)

10. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by Cuba for the inclusion of an item entitled "Necessity of adopting effective measures for the promotion and protection of the rights of children throughout the world who are victims of especially difficult circumstances, including armed conflicts". The representative of Cuba had asked to participate in the discussion of the item in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

11. At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Fernandez Palacios (Cuba) took a place at the Committee table.

12. Mr. FERNANDEZ PALACIOS (Cuba), speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States, said that he wished to propose the inclusion of the new item in view of the current international situation, in which 200,000 children died each week from malnutrition and various curable diseases and nearly 20 million were physically disabled, confined in refugee camps or homeless. The progress achieved in the protection of children had been meagre and inadequate in spite of the enormous efforts by the international community. Accordingly, the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States urged the Committee to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda and allocate it to the Third Committee.

13. Mr. MARTINI HERRERA (Guatemala) and Mrs. FLORES (Uruguay) said that they supported the request by Cuba for the inclusion of the new item.

14. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

15. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Third Committee.

The meeting rose at 11.10 a.m.

UNITED NATIONS  
**General Assembly**

**FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION**

*Official Records*

GENERAL COMMITTEE

9th meeting

held on

Wednesday, 17 November 1993

at 9.30 a.m.

New York

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 9th MEETING

Chairman:

Mr. INSANALLY  
(President of the General Assembly)

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ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL  
ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM SUBMITTED BY ALGERIA

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Distr. GENERAL  
A/BUR/48/SR.9  
15 December 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

The meeting was called to order at 9.40 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALLOCATION OF ITEMS (continued)

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (A/48/243 and A/48/244)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda" (A/48/243).
2. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.
3. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.
4. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the request by the Secretary-General for the inclusion of an additional item entitled "Financing of the United Nations military liaison team in Cambodia" (A/48/244).
5. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.
6. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.

REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM SUBMITTED BY ALGERIA (A/48/245)

7. Mr. HADID (Algeria), speaking on behalf of members of the Group of African States, said that the request was prompted by the exceptional gravity and real dangers of locust infestation in the Sahel-Maghreb region. The international community should be alerted to the potential dangers of the infestation and its economic, social and environmental consequences for the affected regions. The request by Algeria included a draft resolution, which was supported by the Group of African States and also by Belgium, China, Finland, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. It was essential that the General Assembly should act expeditiously on the matter so that the relevant organs of the United Nations system, in particular FAO, could take all the necessary measures for the rapid implementation of the emergency plan of action.
8. Mrs. HASSAN (Egypt) fully supported the inclusion of the item, since the dangers of the locust infestation were very real and action was needed at all levels, local, national and international.
9. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include the additional item in the agenda.

10. The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the item should be considered directly in plenary meeting.

The meeting rose at 9.50 a.m.